

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1. (currently amended) Vertebral osteosynthesis equipment, comprising:

[[~~-~~]] ~~one or more bony anchoring members chosen from pedicular screws or hooks, wherein,~~ at least one of said bony anchoring ~~member comprises~~ members comprising one or more a proximal threaded stud stud and a base portion, the proximal threaded stud having a first end connected to the base portion and a free second end opposed to said first end, said base portion configured ~~adapted to receive a nut and a base portion adapted to anchor to a vertebra;~~

[[~~-~~]] ~~one or two linking rods adapted to connect to said bony anchoring members and to attach to the vertebrae by said bony anchoring members,~~ a linking rod;

[[~~-~~]] ~~one or more parts for connecting said one or two linking rods to said bony anchoring members,~~ a connecting part configured to engage with said proximal threaded stud of said at least one of said anchoring members, and further configured to connect to said linking rod thereby to connect said linking rod to said at least one of said anchoring members;

a nut configured to engage in threaded engagement with
said proximal threaded stud to secure said connecting part; and

~~[[-]] one or more extension pieces adapted for engaging
said proximal threaded studs of the bony anchoring members for
running down connecting parts on said proximal threaded studs so
that said extension pieces rest on a proximal zone of a base
portion of the bony anchoring members;~~ at least one extension
piece having a head portion and an end distal portion opposed to
said head portion, said end distal portion configured to connect
to said free second end of said proximal threaded stud and to
slidingly receive said connecting part from the head portion to
the end distal portion such that said connecting part may engage
upon said proximal threaded stud,

~~wherein the proximal threaded stud of at least one
anchoring member and the corresponding extension piece used with
said bony anchoring member include a positioning member adapted
to position the extension piece concentrically on a free end of
the proximal threaded stud, said positioning member being such
that the extension piece comprises an end distal portion having
an external diameter adapted to let through the nut thereon~~ each
of said head portion and said end distal portion have an
outermost external diameter configured such that the nut, in
coaxial engagement with said extension piece, slides freely over
an entire length of said extension piece,

wherein said free second end of said proximal threaded stud has a first positioning element and said end distal portion of said extension piece has a second positioning element, said first and second positioning elements configured to engage concentrically with each other and to position said end distal portion of said extension piece on said free second end of said proximal threaded stud, and

wherein said nut is configured to cooperate with the proximal threaded stud to secure said connecting part at said first end.

2. (currently amended) The vertebral osteosynthesis equipment of claim 1,

wherein said ~~positioning member~~ first positioning element comprises a rod integral with the proximal threaded stud, ~~or of the extension piece~~ and

wherein said second positioning means comprises a bore provided, respectively, in the second end portion of the extension piece or the proximal threaded stud, and

wherein said rod is adapted to engage in said bore.

3. (currently amended) The vertebral osteosynthesis equipment of claim 1, wherein said ~~positioning member~~ first and second positioning elements ~~enables axial connection of~~ are

configured to axially connect the proximal threaded stud with the extension piece.

4. (currently amended) The vertebral osteosynthesis equipment of claim 3, wherein the proximal threaded stud comprises a threaded proximal rod, and said end distal portion of the extension piece comprises a tapered hole ~~for screwing~~ configured to secure to the extension piece ~~on~~ by threaded engagement with said threaded proximal rod.

5. (currently amended) The vertebral osteosynthesis equipment of claim 1, wherein the head portion of the extension piece ~~has~~ is a flexible structure ~~outside said end distal portion~~ configured to be positioned askew to a direction of extension of the extension piece.

6. (currently amended) The vertebral osteosynthesis equipment of claim 5, wherein said flexible structure ~~is in the form of~~ comprises a metal wire wound ~~into~~ to have a spiral form.

7. (currently amended) The vertebral osteosynthesis equipment of claim 6, wherein the spiral form of said metal wire ~~has spires that are~~ comprises a plurality of contiguous spires.

8. (currently amended) The vertebral osteosynthesis equipment of claim 1, wherein said end distal portion is threaded to cooperate in threaded engagement with ~~screw~~ the nut ~~thereon~~.

9. (currently amended) The vertebral osteosynthesis equipment of claim 2, wherein said ~~positioning member~~ first and second positioning elements ~~enables axial connection of~~ are configured to axially connect the proximal threaded stud with the extension piece.

10. (currently amended) The vertebral osteosynthesis equipment of claim 2, wherein the head portion of the extension piece ~~has~~ is a flexible structure ~~outside said end distal portion~~ configured to be positioned askew to a direction of extension of the extension piece.

11. (currently amended) The vertebral osteosynthesis equipment of claim 3, wherein the head portion of the extension piece ~~has~~ is a flexible structure ~~outside said end distal portion~~ configured to be positioned askew to a direction of extension of the extension piece.

12. (currently amended) The vertebral osteosynthesis equipment of claim 4, wherein the head portion of the extension piece ~~has~~ is a flexible structure ~~outside said end distal portion~~

configured to be positioned askew to a direction of extension of
the extension piece.

13-14. (canceled)

15. (new) The vertebral osteosynthesis equipment of claim 1, wherein an outermost diameter of the end distal portion is smaller than an outermost diameter of the proximal threaded stud.

16. (new) The vertebral osteosynthesis equipment of claim 1, wherein said extension piece is further configured to be removable from said proximal threaded stud upon implantation of said one or more bony anchoring members to a vertebra.

17. (new) The vertebral osteosynthesis equipment of claim 1,

wherein said second positioning element comprises a rod integral with the proximal threaded stud, and

wherein said first positioning means comprises a bore provided in the second end portion of the extension piece, and

wherein said rod is adapted to engage in said bore.

18. (new) A vertebral osteosynthesis equipment, comprising:

a first bony anchoring member comprised of a proximal threaded stud and a base portion, the proximal threaded stud having a first end connected to the base portion and a free second end opposed to said first end, said base portion configured to anchor to a vertebra;

a connecting part configured to engage with said proximal threaded stud of said first bony anchoring member;

a linking rod configured to connect to said connecting part of said first bony anchoring member, and further configured to connect to a second bony anchoring member;

a nut configured to engage on said proximal threaded stud to secure said connecting part; and

an extension piece having a head portion and an end distal portion opposed to said head portion, said end distal portion configured to connect to said free second end of said proximal threaded stud and to slidably receive said connecting part from the head portion to the end distal portion such that said connecting part may engage upon said proximal threaded stud;

wherein each of said head portion and said end distal portion have an outermost external diameter configured such that the nut, in coaxial engagement with said extension piece, slides freely over an entire length of said extension piece,

wherein said free second end of said proximal threaded stud has a first positioning element and said end distal portion of said extension piece has a second positioning element, said first and second positioning elements configured to engage concentrically with each other and to position said end distal portion of said extension piece on said free second end of said proximal threaded stud, and

wherein said nut is configured to cooperate with the proximal threaded stud to secure said connecting part at said first end.

19. (new) The vertebral osteosynthesis equipment of claim 18, wherein the head portion opposite said end distal portion is a flexible structure configured to be positioned askew to a direction of extension of the extension piece.

20. (new) The vertebral osteosynthesis equipment of claim 19, wherein said flexible structure comprises a metal wire wound to have a spiral form.

21. (new) The vertebral osteosynthesis equipment of claim 20, wherein the spiral form of said metal wire comprises a plurality of contiguous spires.